

State of Louisiana

The seal of the State of Louisiana is centered between the words "of" and "Louisiana". It features a pelican feeding its young in a nest, with a banner below that reads "UNION JUSTICE AND CONFIDENCE".

July 14, 2005

Mr. Alfred W. Speer
Clerk of the House of Representatives
State Capitol
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

RE: House Bill No. 789 by Representative William Daniel
Contracts: Contracts for certain water treatment facilities.

Dear Mr. Speer:

House Bill No. 789 by Representative William Daniel proposed to authorize certain political subdivisions to enter into agreements including those referred to as structured financing transactions or lease-leaseback agreements for the maintenance and operation of public facilities related to sewerage and nonpotable water treatment systems. I have previously expressed my concerns about the risks associated with such complicated transactions but need not discuss them at this time except to say that I still have reservations.

As the bill moved through the legislative process it was amended to include additional areas of the state and as reported by the conferees to the conference committee to the chambers additional area was included and the conference committee report was adopted. Following Senate adoption of the report, Senate Resolution No. 180 was offered and explained on the Senate Floor and was adopted without objection.

Senate Resolution No. 180 recites that the Senate delegation representing Jefferson Parish is opposed to the inclusion of that parish and the resolution further urges and requests that the governor veto House Bill No. 789 for this reason and because of the lack of full due deliberation on its contents due to severe time constraints.

For these reasons, I am vetoing House Bill No. 789 and returning it to the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Babineaux Blanco
Governor

jw

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Mr. Glenn Koepp
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

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